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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198565 TOSEC 200315

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 3158 ACTION SECSTATE INFO EC BRUSSELS
09 AUG 1976

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3158

FROM LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS, EEC, UR, US
SUBJ: EC LOS POLICY: SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 7495

1. SUMMARY: EC REP TO LOS CONFERENCE PROVIDED EC POSITION PAPER (POUCHED TO EUR/RPE) AND ORALLY NOTED THAT EC WILL TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN CONFERENCE THAN HERETOFORE, URGED US TO WORK WITH MODERATES IN GROUP OF 77 IN CONTRAST TO "WILD MEN" IN GROUP AND REQUESTED BILATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY IN NEW YORK. END SUMMARY.

2. IN MEETING WITH DELOFF, EAMMON GALLAGHER, EC REP TO LOS CONF., GAVE US COPY OF EC POSITION PAPER (POUCHED) WHICH TAKES POSITION THAT EC SHOULD BE SIGNATORY PARTY TO LOS CONVENTION, THAT EC HAS TAKEN COMMON POSITION ON SEVERAL LOS ISSUES AND THAT THE EC INTENDS TO ADOPT 200 MILE FISHERIES
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ZONE.

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3. CALLAGHER SAID THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HAD HITHERTO PLAYED A PASSIVE ROLE IN THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS, BUT THAT HE NOW INTENDS FOR THE EC TO TAKE A MUCH MORE ACTIVE PART. HIS FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WILL BE REDUCE THE FRG'S ACTIVITY IN THE LL/GDS GROUP OF COUNTRIES. THE FRG WILL RESIST, HE SAID, BUT HE IS DETERMINED TO IMPOSE COMMUNITY POLICY ON ITS MEMBERS; HE STATED HE IS SUPPORTED IN THIS ENDEAVOR BY COMMUNITY LAW.

4. CALLAGHER EXPRESSED FEAR THAT THE GROUP OF 77 IS CURRENTLY DOMINATED BY YOUNG "WILD MEN" WHO ARE OUT TO WRECK THE LOS CONFERENCE IF THEIR DEMANDS ARE NOT MET. HE URGED THAT THE U.S. WORK ON THE MODERATES WITHIN THE GROUP OF 77 TO COUNTERVAIL THE DANGEROUS INFLUENCE OF THE "WILD MEN". HE SAID IT IS IMPERATIVE THE U.S. COOPERATE WITH THE SOVIETS IN THIS REGARD. HE SAID THE EC IS PREPARED TO HELP.

5. GALLAGHER URGED THAT THE SECRETARY MEET WITH RIPHAGEN (NETHERLAND DEL, CURRENTLY EC PRESIDENCY) AND HIMSELF NEXT WEEK DURING THE SECRETARY'S NEW YORK VISIT. HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS COULD PROVE CONVENIENT TO THE SECRETARY, AS RIPHAGEN AND HE COULD SPEAK WITH SOME AUTHORITY FOR THE SEVERAL COUNTRIES COMPRISING THE EC. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE EC WANTS AN LOS TREATY AND WANTS TO ASSIST THE U.S. IN PLAYING A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE TOWARD THAT END.

COMMENT: IN VIEW OF TIGHT SCHEDULE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL HAVE ON AUGUST 13, WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND IN-CLUDING RIPHAGEN UNLESS OPENING OCCURS. SECRETARY COULD SEE HIM DURING A SUBSEQUENT VISIT.
END. BENNETT UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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